(e) if not, the steps being contemplated by Government to change the transfer policy in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government has recently issued guidelines to the KVS to modify the transfer policy of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for the academic year 2004-05 to the following extent:—

i. No transfers will be made other than on administrative grounds or on requests made by teachers outside the Zone or Region identified for this purpose by the KVS;

ii. The transfers should mostly be done only against vacancies on the basis of requests received for the same;

iii. As far as possible, where either of the spouses are in the employment of Central Government, a KVS employee will not be transferred unless the spouse is also getting a transfer. The same principle may also apply in respect of those teachers whose spouses are working in Central PSUs, or with the State Government;

iv. Wherever transfers made in the past for lady teachers to places more than 500 KMs, a choice will be given to them to come back to any position within 500 KMs, provided there is a vacancy for the same.

Detailed guidelines in respect of the above have since been issued.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir. Cases of extreme human compassion are covered under the transfer guidelines.

(e) The question does not arise now.

Fall in GDP growth rate

*92. SHRI MOOL CHAND MEENA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Economic and Social Survey for Asia and Pacific, 2004 conducted by the United Nations has highlighted that India's Gross Domestic Product growth rate could drop to 6 per cent in 2004 after registering a growth rate of 7.5 per cent in 2003;

(b) if so, the other aspects of the survey;

(c) whether India was among the fifteen nations invited to take part in the eleventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development held in Brazil on June 13 this year; and

(d) if so, the issues discussed in the conference and to what extent India has been benefited by participating in this conference?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The Economic & Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2004 which is published by United Nations has forecast 6% real GDP growth for the year 2004 as against 7.5% forecast for 2003 for India. While assuming no major external and internal shocks, the Survey points out that India should be able to sustain real GDP growth rates in the range of 6-7% in 2004-2006.

(b) The survey has examined poverty reduction strategies adopted by some 20 countries of Asia and the Pacific, with particular emphasis on their effectiveness in helping reach the Millennium Development Goals. The Survey predicts that taking 2003 as a whole, despite the war in Iraq and the SARS crisis, the developing countries of the ESCAP region, experienced collective GDP growth higher than the rate achieved in 2002, when they were the fastest-growing economies in the world. Furthermore, on current trends, growth is expected to pick up additional momentum in 2004 should the global economy build up steam as posted earlier, *via* strong household consumption & higher corporate investment expenditures, in 2004.

(c) India alongwith other member states participated in the 11th Session of the UNCTAD Conference which was held at Sao Paulo, Brazil from June 13th 2004 - June 18th, 2004.

(d) The theme of the Conference was "Enhancing Coherence between national strategies and the global economic processes towards economic growth and development, particularly of developing countries". India alongwith other developing countries group known as G-77 and China, were successful in highlighting the concerns of development countries under the multilateral trading system. The developing countries succeeded in pointing out that the central issue of the globalisation should be development and that many developing countries have still remained on the margins of the Globalisation process. It was also acknowledged that there is a need for policy space and policy flexibility to the development strategies of national Governments. UNCTAD which has provided an

invaluable forum for advancing the inter-relationship between trade and development, from both the national and international perspective, across the three pillars of its mandate viz., independent policy analysis, technical assistance and consensus building; should continue its work and provide necessary inputs to the developing countries.

Autonomy of DD/AIR

†*93. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that autonomy of Doordarshan and Akashwani has been constantly on decrease despite the existence of the Prasar Bharati since the last few years;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that as a consequence thereof there has been considerable degradation in the quality of its programmes; and

(c) if so, what action Government are taking to make Doordarashan and Akashwani autonomous and independent?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) The Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India), which has been established under the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, enjoys the powers and functions as defined in section 12 of the said Act. There has been no degradation in the quality of its programmes and the allocation of funds for programme activities has also gone up over the years.

Violation of Master Plan

*94. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Development Authority has violated the Master Plan;

(b) whether the Master Plan was mandatory; and

(c) whether any court case is pending against such violation?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Master Plan is a mandatory document prepared under the Delhi Development Act, 1957. Presently Master Plan of Delhi-2001 is in force. Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.